

Ahihi-Kinau

Island: Maui
Size: 1,238 acres on land, 807 acres marine
Elevational range: below sea level - 500 feet
Year established: 1973
Date surveyed: March 1988
Description: Set on the most recent historic lava flow on Maui, Ahihi-Kinau contains anchialine pools with a high diversity of rare Hawaiian shrimps, and a unique lava tube community that provides habitat for native Hawaiian cave animals. The marine portion is not characterized here.
Natural Communities: 6 total, 2 rare

RANK	NAME
1	High Salinity Lava Anchialine Pool
1	<i>Meioneta/Hawaiioscia</i> Lowland Lava Tube
3	'Akulikuli Coastal Dry Herbland
3	<i>Cacenomobius</i> Coastal Mesic Boulder Beach
3	Low Salinity Lava Anchialine Pool
4	Pioneer Vegetation on Lava

Native Plants: 21 total taxa, 3 rare
Native Animals: 14 total taxa, 5 rare

Management Highlights: Preserving the integrity of anchialine pools is a major management focus. The main threats to pools are non-native plants on pool margins, excessive algal mat formation, introduced fish or invertebrates, and bathing or swimming in the pools. Recommended management includes erecting new signs to inform people of the unique nature of the pools and the need to protect them, controlling and monitoring invasive weeds such as sour bush and mangrove, and removal and monitoring of non-native fish such as mosquito-fish or tilapia. Lava tubes will not be made accessible to the general public. Guidelines for scientific work in the lava tubes should be established. Much of the reserve's vegetation is non-native dominated.